

# The National Weather Service

## AHPS Phase VI End User's Guide ver 1.0



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## **Background**

Advanced Hydrologic Prediction Service (AHPS) are a new and essential component of our Climate, Water, and Weather Services. AHPS is a web-based suite of accurate and information-rich forecast products. They display the magnitude and uncertainty of occurrence of floods or droughts, from hours to days and months, in advance. These graphical products are useful information and planning tools for many economic and emergency managers. These new products will enable government agencies, private institutions, and individuals to make more informed decisions about risk based policies and actions to mitigate the dangers posed by floods and droughts.

### New Features in Current Release

In this release of AHPS, two major updates have been applied to the traditional interface:

- Introduction of "Low Flow" designation on Hydrographs
- Utilization of Google Maps interface instead of Tiger Maps at Gauge Location

#### Low Flow

In relation to stage height, a brown line can now be plotted on Hydrographs to depict levels of low flow on the water body. This can be useful information to the general public in regards to activities that may rely on certain hydrologic flow rates or stage levels such as canoe/kayaking and fishing.

See following page for Hydrograph example.



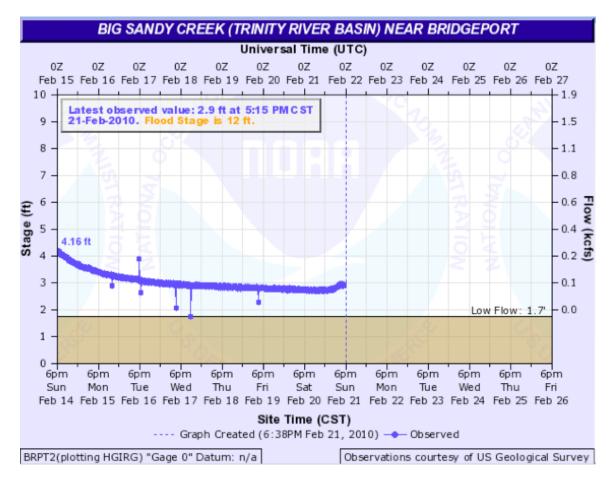


Figure 1: Hydrograph displaying Low Flow



### **Google Maps Inteface (Gauge Location)**

In previous releases of AHPS, maps of Gauge Locations were created using the US Census TIGER Map system. While effective in displaying pertinent information at and around the sensor, it was limited in that it was a static image. With the introduction of Google Maps, users now have a very powerful mapping tool on their interface that can provide them with different zoom levels of information and different types of maps. This is a very important part of this release as it was created in order to serve the many different types of customers that use the AHPS interface.

Example of Legacy TIGER Map interface:

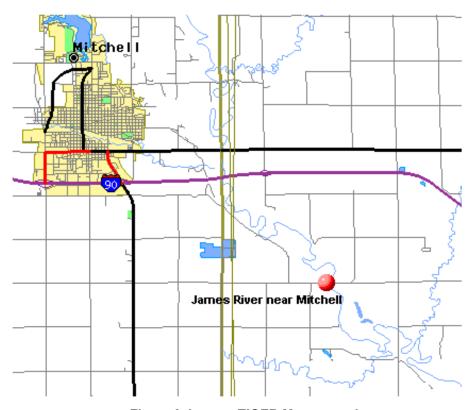


Figure 2: Legacy TIGER Map example



Example(s) of same Gauge Site utilizing new Google Maps interface:



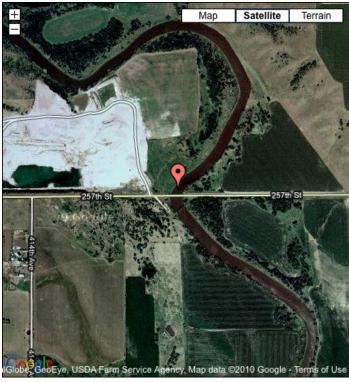


Figure 3: Google Maps Example of Same Site (Figure 2)